



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability  
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, October 27, 2008

## ***Electricity***

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### **Wind and Rain Knock Out Power to More than 50,000 CL&P Customers in Connecticut October 25-26**

A storm knocked down trees and power lines, cutting power to more than 50,000 customers October 25-26. Connecticut Light and Power (CL&P) had reduced its outages to fewer than 2,000 by the evening of October 26.  
[http://www.wtnh.com/Global/story.asp?S=9240247&nav=menu29\\_5\\_3](http://www.wtnh.com/Global/story.asp?S=9240247&nav=menu29_5_3)

### **Storms Knock Out Power to 41,000 JCP&L Households in New Jersey October 25**

Customers were in the dark for an average of approximately two hours, a Jersey Central Power & Light (JCP&L) official said. Atlantic City Electric reported an additional 14,744 customers without power on October 25.  
<http://www.app.com/article/20081027/NEWS01/810270313/1004/NEWS01>  
<http://www.atlanticcityelectric.com/home/emergency/maps/outage/>

### **Wind Storm Knocks Out Electricity to More than 30,000 Customers in Iowa October 26**

Winds cut power to 21,824 MidAmerican Energy customers and 10,452 Alliant customers October 26, based on news accounts and company-reported figures. As of latest reports, only scattered outages remained.  
<http://www.siouxcityjournal.com/articles/2008/10/27/news/local/c07265bad30f7535862574ef000dd8f0.txt>  
[http://www.wqad.com/Global/story.asp?S=9241782&nav=menu132\\_2480](http://www.wqad.com/Global/story.asp?S=9241782&nav=menu132_2480)  
<http://www.alliantenergy.com/docs/groups/public/documents/pub/p014498.hcsp>  
<http://www.midamericanenergy.com/storm/>

### **Operators Declare Unusual Event after Explosion at Exelon's 1,824 MW Quad Cities Nuclear Power Plant in Illinois**

The station declared an unusual event "due to an explosion in the protected area" early this morning, an NRC report said. The explosion occurred in the radwaste floor drain surge tank building, which is situated "outside the vital area West of the Turbine building." The incident did not cause any injuries, trigger any radioactive release, or affect the reactors. It also did not appear to cause a fire; responders were on-site to evaluate the situation. Both of the facility's units remained at full power.

Bloomberg News, 09:14 October 27, 2008

Reuters, 10:03 October 27, 2008

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/en.html>  
<http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=ind focus.story&STORY=/www/story/10-27-2008/0004911931&EDATE=MON+Oct+27+2008,+09:10+AM>

### **Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuke Unit 1 in Mississippi Shut by October 27**

A turbine generator trip forced shut the unit, Entergy said. The unit was running at about 50 percent capacity at the time of the incident, according to a spokeswoman.

Bloomberg News, 10:45 October 27, 2008

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

## **Operators Shut Leaking Pipe at FirstEnergy's 925 MW Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant in Ohio**

Operators shut a 3-inch pipeline leaking low-level radioactive material, operators said. The line connects to a water-storage retention pond, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said samples indicated the radioactive substance had not left the site or contaminated groundwater. Workers discovered the leak, which contained tritium, last Wednesday.

[http://www.medicinehatnews.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=43856&Itemid=67](http://www.medicinehatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=43856&Itemid=67)

## **Update: FirstEnergy's 831 MW Beaver Valley Nuke Unit 2 in Pennsylvania Shut by October 25**

The company shut the unit to conduct repairs to a low head safety injection pump, according to a plant spokesman. The unit was expected to stay down for a couple of days. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 24 the unit was operating at 19 percent.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN2444228820081024>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

## **LCRA Plans Shutdown of 460 MW Fayette Coal-fired Unit 3 in Texas October 26**

The Lower Colorado River Authority expected to shut the unit yesterday morning "to repair the submerged scraper drive," the company said in a filing with state regulators. Operations personnel discovered the drive breakdown Friday afternoon. The company expected to begin restarting the unit early October 29

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=115832>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=115831>

## **AEP Shuts 265 MW Gas-fired Power Plant in Oklahoma after Fire October 24**

American Electric Power (AEP) stalled the unit after a generator fire. The incident cut power to 4,000 customers, a spokesman said. Customer service was restored, but the unit remained offline.

Bloomberg News, 16:23 October 24, 2008

## **PPL's 1,105 MW Susquehanna Nuke Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Ramped Up to 94 Percent by October 27**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 26 the unit was operating at 80 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

## **Update: PG&E's 1,087 MW Diablo Canyon Nuke Unit 2 in California Ramped Up to 95 Percent by October 26**

PG&E shut the unit on October 21 when jellyfish cut water flows to the cooling system. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 25 the unit was operating at 48 percent.

Bloomberg News, 09:24 October 27, 2008

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

## **Update: AEP Expects to Have Return-to-Service Schedule by Late November at 1,048 MW DC Cook Nuke Unit 1 in Michigan—Unit Shut on September 20**

AEP has completed initial inspections and disassembly of the main turbine, and expects to have a return-to-service schedule for the unit by late November. The unit shut September 20 after vibrations damaged the main turbine. The incident caused a hydrogen leak and a fire in the main generator.

<http://www.aep.com/newsroom/newsreleases/?id=1506>

### **Update: Constellation's 565 MW Nine Mile Point Nuke Unit 1 in New York Ramped Up to 55 Percent by October 27**

Constellation Energy Group stalled the unit on October 23 because of “the loss of the electronic pressure regulator,” a news source said. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 26 the unit was not operating.

Bloomberg News, 12:26 October 27, 2008

Reuters, 07:55 October 27, 2008

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

### **Luminant Plans Restart of 593 MW Big Brown Coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas October 25**

The company planned to restart the unit on October 25 after “boiler tube leak repairs,” according to a filing with state regulators. The restart was scheduled to last eight hours.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=115740>

### **AES's 498 MW Alamosa Gas-fired Unit 5 in California Returns to Service by October 24**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit returned from an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200810241515.html>

### **OPG's 535 MW Lennox Oil-and-Gas-fired Lennox Unit 3 in Ontario Shuts by October 27**

A spokesman did not say when the unit would return to service, but traders expected it back within a week.

Reuters, 11:03 October 27, 2008

### **OPG Shuts 515 MW Pickering Nuke Unit in Ontario by October 27**

Bloomberg News, 08:13 October 27, 2008

### **TransAlta's 399 MW Sundance Coal-fired Unit 6 in Alberta Shut October 24**

Reuters, 19:09 October 24, 2008

### **TransAlta's 381 MW Keephills Coal-fired Unit 2 in Alberta Shut October 26**

Reuters, 11:45 October 27, 2008

### **Enmax's 250 MW Calgary Gas-fired Unit in Alberta Shut October 24**

Reuters, 16:13 October 24, 2008

### **We Energies Plans 207 MW Glacier Hills Wind Park in Wisconsin**

The facility would include up to 90 wind turbines, and generate as much as 207 MW of power. We Energies filed with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) on October 27 for authorization to build; the company expects the PSCW review to stretch six months to a year. The project's first full year of commercial operation is expected to be 2012.

[http://wecnews.wisconsinenergy.com/news/newsrel/pages/newsrelease\\_129](http://wecnews.wisconsinenergy.com/news/newsrel/pages/newsrelease_129)

### **Arizona Renewable Transmission Task Force Plan Calls for New Transmission Lines to Boost Renewable Energy Production**

Arizona would construct 445 miles of 500-kV transmission lines and 247 miles of 230-kV lines, and give the state access to an additional 7,750 MW of renewable energy resources, according to a plan developed by the Arizona Renewable Transmission Task Force. The state has the potential to produce 4,650 MW of solar power and an additional 3,100 MW of renewable energy, largely from wind. The Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) requested the plan two years ago. “Arizona has the opportunity to be the provider of solar power to the Southwest,” one ACC official said.

<http://www.platts.com/Electric%20Power/News/6999274.xml?p=Electric%20Power/News&sub=Electric%20Power>

### **ExxonMobil Reports Flaring, Minimal Production Impact at 567,000 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery October 26**

"Higher pressures at the DCU's quench tower system" triggered intermittent flaring, ExxonMobil said in a filing with state regulators. The incident caused minimal impact to production, and the company said it was meeting all customer needs.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=115866>

### **Valero Reports Unit Snag at 182,200 b/d Delaware City, Delaware Refinery**

A problem with an air separation unit triggered flaring, the company said in an October 24 regulatory filing. Valero expected to shut the unit.

Bloomberg News, 06:58 October 27, 2008

### **Oil Prices Continue to Drop as White House Criticizes OPEC Production Cut**

Calling OPEC's decision to slash crude production by 1.5 million b/d "anti-market," a White House spokeswoman said oil producers should be working to "reassure the global market place that energy supplies are affordable and dependable." Despite OPEC's reduction announcement, crude prices continued to drop sharply at the end of last week.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20081024-711026.html>

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20081024-709762.html>

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB122484057300166131.html?mod=todays\\_us\\_page\\_one](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB122484057300166131.html?mod=todays_us_page_one)

## **Natural Gas**

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### **Update: EnCana Restarts Natural Gas Pipelines in British Columbia after Bombings**

EnCana Corp. said it repaired and resumed shipments along a 12-inch, 60 MMcf/d pipeline and an 8-inch, 40 MMcf/d line. The pipelines shut due to separate explosions about two weeks ago.

Bloomberg News, 13:41 October 24, 2008

### **Transco Pipeline Plans 810,000 Dth/d, 26-inch, 15-mile Pipeline to Link Pending Pascagoula, Mississippi LNG Terminal to Mobile County, Alabama Main Line**

The build would also involve a new meter station and adjustments to an existing compressor station. The associated Gulf LNG Energy liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal is expected to open by the fall of 2011. Williams—which owns Transco—and Florida Gas Transmission have partnered to develop the connecting pipeline. Williams plans to complete that construction in time for the terminal's start date.

<http://www.gulflive.com/news/mississippipress/news.ssf?/base/news/1225026907118390.xml&coll=5>

### **Spectra Energy Announces Open Season for up to 395 MMcf/d of Natural Gas Pipeline Capacity in British Columbia**

Spectra Energy plans to add up to 260 MMcf/d of eastbound gas delivery capacity, and up to 135 MMcf/d of westbound capacity in British Columbia, the company said in a press release. The westbound capacity would supplement Spectra's existing Fort St. John mainline; it would deliver gas to a compressor station in British Columbia. The eastbound line would transport gas to interconnection points with TransCanada Pipelines and Alliance Pipeline in Alberta. Spectra expects the facilities to be online in the fourth quarter of 2009.

[http://www.spectraenergy.com/news/releases/2008/oct/20081024\\_01.asp](http://www.spectraenergy.com/news/releases/2008/oct/20081024_01.asp)

## **Other News**

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### **VeraSun Shuts 110 Million Gallon/Year Linden, Indiana Ethanol Plant**

VeraSun Energy shut the 110 million gallon/year ethanol plant last Thursday, employees said. Company officials did not comment to a news source, but VeraSun appears to be for sale. It announced last month that it had attained Morgan Stanley to help it "evaluate strategic alternatives." The facility will be shut at least two weeks, another news source said.

<http://www.thepaper24-7.com/main.asp?SectionID=23&SubSectionID=22&ArticleID=18078&TM=9077.606>

<http://jconline.com/article/20081025/BUSINESS/810250332>

## Greater Ohio Ethanol Declares Bankruptcy amid Lagging Economy, Design Flaws

The company's Lima, Ohio ethanol plant began production in July, but struggled due to design flaws and a slowed economy, a company official said. The facility had been consuming twice the amount of water it planned, the city's mayor said.

<http://news.cincinnati.com/article/20081026/BIZ01/810260360/1076/rss01>

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
October 27, 2008			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	63.84	73.56	91.81
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	6.29	6.76	6.43

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### Equipment Malfunction Cuts Power to 21,553 United Illuminating Customers in Connecticut October 25

<http://www.wfsb.com/money/17801652/detail.html>

<http://www.uinet.com/uinet/connect/UINet/Top+Navigator/Customer+Care/Home-Residential/Storm+Center/Outage+Map/>

### Winds Cut Power to 24,654 SCE&G Customers in South Carolina October 24

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/story/643865.html>

<http://www.sceg.com/en/storm-center/outage-updates/>

### Winds Cut Power to 11,700 Customers in Virginia, Maryland, D.C. October 25

<http://www.wtopnews.com/?nid=25&sid=1504346>

### Wind Knocks Out Power to About 10,000 Georgia Power Customers in Georgia October 24

<http://www.macon.com/198/story/502682.html>

### Winds Cut Power to More than 10,000 ComEd Customers in Illinois October 26-27

<http://www.pioneerlocal.com/pioneerpress/latest/1243955.pp-wind-102708-s1.article>

### Storms Knock Out Power to About 10,000 PSNH Customers in New Hampshire Over Weekend

<http://www.fox44.net/Global/story.asp?S=9244135>

### Blade Breaks Off Suzlon-Made 2.1 MW Wind Turbine in Illinois

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB122485006026866321.html?mod=todays\\_us\\_money\\_and\\_investing](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB122485006026866321.html?mod=todays_us_money_and_investing)

### Cogeneration Unit Shuts Down at Sid Richardson's Big Spring, Texas Carbon Facility October 24

<http://www.sidrich.com/EH&S/GoingGreen.htm>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=115827>

**Competitive Power Ventures Says Maryland Hearing Examiner Recommends Maryland Public Service Commission Grant Construction Permit for Proposed 640 MW Power Plant**  
[http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=ind\\_focus.story&STORY=/www/story/10-24-2008/0004911206&EDATE=FRI+Oct+24+2008,+04:00+PM](http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=ind_focus.story&STORY=/www/story/10-24-2008/0004911206&EDATE=FRI+Oct+24+2008,+04:00+PM)

**Refiners Curtailing Production or Eyeing Cuts as Dropping Gasoline Prices Slash Margins**  
[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB122506349209170401.html?mod=googlenews\\_wsj](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB122506349209170401.html?mod=googlenews_wsj)

**U.S. Retail Gasoline Price Dips 16 Percent, or 53 Cents, to \$2.78/Gallon, in Two Weeks to October 24—Trilby Lundberg Survey**  
[http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601103&sid=afCg\\_59RXFdo&refer=us](http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601103&sid=afCg_59RXFdo&refer=us)

**ExxonMobil Reports Flaring at 567,000 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery October 24-25**  
Bloomberg News, 15:47 October 26, 2008

**BP Reports Flaring at 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery October 24-25**  
Bloomberg News, 16:47 October 26, 2008

**Valero Reports Flaring at 289,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery October 25**  
<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=115829>

**ConocoPhillips Reports RTO Shutdown at 247,000 b/d Sweeny, Texas Refinery October 25**  
<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=115828>

**Update: BP Leaving Two Well Pads Closed at Prudhoe Bay in Alaska—Gas Pipeline Explosion Forced Shut 5,000 b/d of Oil Output**  
Bloomberg News, 06:37 October 27, 2008

**Electrical Short Shuts Booster Site at Chap Booster Station in Texas October 26—Event Triggers High Field Pressure and Natural Gas Venting**  
<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=115850>

**Turbines Shut at Fullerton Gas Plant in Texas October 25**  
<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=115834>

**Compressor Shutdown at Tilden Gas Plant in Texas October 25**  
<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=115840>  
<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=115826>

**Tap Oil and Gas Says North Loeher Ranch Field in Texas to Produce More than 5 Billion Cubic Feet of Natural Gas Over Next 10-15 Years**  
[http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=ind\\_focus.story&STORY=/www/story/10-24-2008/0004911103&EDATE=FRI+Oct+24+2008,+12:35+PM](http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=ind_focus.story&STORY=/www/story/10-24-2008/0004911103&EDATE=FRI+Oct+24+2008,+12:35+PM)

**American Communities Face Difficulties Preparing for Possible Ethanol Fires as Transportation Rises**  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/10/25/AR2008102502095.html>

**Shale and Tight Gas Prospects in British Columbia Could Compensate for Dip in Conventional Canadian Natural Gas Production—National Energy Board**  
<http://www.platts.com/Natural%20Gas/News/6999240.xml?p=Natural%20Gas/News&sub=Natural%20Gas>

**OPEC to Slash Output Again if Market Remains Unstable, Iran's OPEC Governor Says, as OPEC's Weekly Average Crude Price Dips to Lowest Total Since End of March, 2007**  
[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=68293](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=68293)  
[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=68289](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=68289)



**Cuu Long Joint Operating Co. Begins Production at Su Tu Vang Oilfield Offshore Vietnam—Field to Produce 65,000 b/d of Oil**

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=68284](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=68284)

**Oil Exports from Iraq's Basra Terminal Dip from 1.6 Million b/d to 1.2 Million b/d on Machinery Problem—Iraq's South Oil Company Source**

Reuters, 09:09 October 27, 2008

**Pirates Assault Two Oil Vessels Offshore Niger Delta October 25—Briefly Capture Several Oil Workers**

Reuters, 13:11 October 25, 2008

**Nigerian Soldiers Kill Five Militants in Niger Delta—Military Spokesman Says October 24**

Reuters, 12:56 October 24, 2008

## **Links**

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***This Week in Petroleum*** from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

***Weekly Petroleum Status Report*** from EIA

[http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil\\_gas/petroleum/data\\_publications/weekly\\_petroleum\\_status\\_report/wpsr.html](http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html)

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

***Natural Gas Weekly Update*** from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

### **ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY**

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

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